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AMENDMENTS TO LB 1139

1 1. Strike the original sections and insert the following 2 new sections: 3 "Section 1. Section 71-162, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read: 4 5 71-162. (1) It is the intent of the Legislature that the 6 revenue to cover the cost of the credentialing system administered 7 by the department is to be derived from General Funds, cash funds, 8 federal funds, gifts, grants, or fees from individuals or entities 9 seeking credentials. The credentialing system includes the 10 totality of the credentialing infrastructure and the process of 11 issuance and renewal of credentials, examinations, inspections, 12 investigations, continuing competency, compliance assurance, and 13 the credentialing review process for the following individuals and 14 entities that provide health services and health-related services: 15 (a) Individuals in the practice of acupuncture; advanced 16 practice nursing; asbestos abatement, inspection, project design, 17 and training; athletic training; audiology; speech-language 18 pathology; chiropractic; dentistry; dental hygiene; environmental 19 health; hearing aid instrument dispensing and fitting; lead-based 20 paint abatement, inspection, project design, and training; medical 21 nutrition therapy; medical radiography; medication aide services; 22 medicine and surgery; mental health practice; nursing; nurse aide 23 nursing assistant or paid dining assistant services; nursing home

therapy;

optometry; osteopathic

administration; occupational

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- 1 medicine; pharmacy; physical therapy; podiatry; psychology; radon
- 2 detection, measurement, and mitigation; respiratory care; social
- 3 work; swimming pool operation; veterinary medicine and surgery;
- 4 water system operation; constructing or decommissioning water wells
- 5 and installing water well pumps and pumping equipment; and
- 6 wholesale drug distribution; and
- 7 (b) Individuals in the practice of and entities in the
- 8 business of cosmetology; electrology; emergency medical services;
- 9 esthetics; funeral directing and embalming; massage therapy; and
- 10 nail technology.
- 11 (2) The department shall determine the cost of the
- 12 credentialing system for such individuals and entities by
- 13 calculating the total of the base costs, the variable costs, and
- 14 any adjustments as provided in sections 71-162.01 to 71-162.03.
- 15 (3) When fees are to be established pursuant to section
- 16 71-162.04 for individuals or entities other than individuals in the
- 17 practice of constructing or decommissioning water wells and
- 18 installing water well pumps and pumping equipment, the department,
- 19 upon recommendation of the appropriate board if applicable, shall
- 20 base the fees on the cost of the credentialing system and shall
- 21 include usual and customary cost increases, a reasonable reserve,
- 22 and the cost of any new or additional credentialing activities.
- 23 For individuals in the practice of constructing or decommissioning
- 24 water wells and installing water well pumps and pumping equipment,
- 25 the Water Well Standards and Contractors' Licensing Board shall
- 26 establish the fees as otherwise provided in this subsection. All
- 27 such fees shall be collected as provided in section 71-163.

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- 1 Sec. 2. Section 71-6038, Reissue Revised Statutes of
- 2 Nebraska, is amended to read:
- 3 71-6038. For purposes of sections 71-6038 to 71-6042 $_{\tau}$
- 4 unless the context otherwise requires and sections 7 to 11 of this
- 5 act:
- 6 (1) Complicated feeding problems include, but are not
- 7 limited to, difficulty swallowing, recurrent lung aspirations, and
- 8 tube or parenteral or intravenous feedings;
- 9 (2) Department shall mean means the Department of Health
- 10 and Human Services Regulation and Licensure; and
- 11 (2) (3) Nursing assistant shall mean means any person₇
- 12 other than a licensed registered or practical nurse, employed by a
- 13 nursing home for the purpose of aiding a licensed registered or
- 14 practical nurse through the performance of nonspecialized tasks
- 15 related to the personal care and comfort of residents other than a
- 16 paid dining assistant or a licensed registered or practical nurse;
- 17 (4) Nursing home means any facility or a distinct part of
- 18 any facility that provides care as defined in sections 71-420,
- 19 71-421, 71-422, 71-424, and 71-429; and
- 20 (5) Paid dining assistant means any person employed by a
- 21 nursing home for the purpose of aiding a licensed registered or
- 22 practical nurse through the feeding of residents other than a
- 23 nursing assistant or a licensed registered or practical nurse.
- 24 Sec. 3. Section 71-6039, Reissue Revised Statutes of
- 25 Nebraska, is amended to read:
- 26 71-6039. (1) No person shall act as a nursing assistant
- 27 in a nursing home unless such person:

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- 1 (1) (a) Is at least sixteen years of age and has not been
- 2 convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude;
- $\frac{(2)}{(2)}$ (b) Is able to speak and understand the English
- 4 language or a language understood by a substantial portion of the
- 5 nursing home residents; and
- 6 (3) (c) Has successfully completed a basic course of
- 7 training approved by the department for nursing assistants within
- 8 one hundred twenty days of initial employment in the capacity of a
- 9 nursing assistant at any nursing home if employment begins after
- 10 January 1, 1984.
- 11 (2) The department may prescribe a curriculum for
- 12 training nursing assistants and may adopt and promulgate rules and
- 13 regulations for such courses of training. The content of the
- 14 courses of training and competency evaluation programs shall be
- 15 consistent with federal requirements unless exempted. The
- 16 department may approve courses of training if such courses of
- 17 training meet the requirements of this section. Such courses of
- 18 training shall include instruction on the responsibility of each
- 19 nursing assistant to report suspected abuse or neglect pursuant to
- 20 sections 28-372 and 28-711. Nursing homes may carry out approved
- 21 courses of training within the nursing home, except that nursing
- 22 homes may not conduct the competency evaluation part of the
- 23 program. The prescribed training shall be administered by a
- 24 licensed registered nurse.
- 25 Prior to October 1, 1990, for nursing assistants at all
- 26 nursing homes, and on and after such date for (3) For nursing
- 27 assistants at intermediate care facilities for the mentally

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- 1 retarded, such courses of training shall be no less than twenty
- 2 hours in duration and shall include at least fifteen hours of basic
- 3 personal care training and five hours of basic therapeutic and
- 4 emergency procedure training, and on and after October 1, 1990, for
- 5 nursing assistants at all nursing homes other than intermediate
- 6 care facilities for the mentally retarded, such courses shall be no
- 7 less than seventy-five hours in duration.
- 8 (4) This section shall not prohibit any facility from
- 9 exceeding the minimum hourly or training requirements.
- 10 Sec. 4. Section 71-6040, Reissue Revised Statutes of
- 11 Nebraska, is amended to read:
- 12 71-6040. The Department of Health and Human Services
- 13 Regulation and Licensure department shall approve all courses,
- 14 lectures, seminars, course materials, or other instructional
- 15 programs used to meet the requirements of sections 71-6038 to
- 16 71-6042 and sections 7 to 11 of this act.
- 17 Sec. 5. Section 71-6041, Reissue Revised Statutes of
- 18 Nebraska, is amended to read:
- 19 71-6041. To protect the health, safety, and welfare of
- 20 nursing home residents and the public, the Department of Health and
- 21 Human Services Regulation and Licensure department shall adopt and
- 22 promulgate such rules and regulations as are necessary for the
- 23 effective administration of sections 71-6038 to 71-6042 and
- 24 sections 7 to 11 of this act. Such rules and regulations shall be
- 25 consistent with federal requirements developed by the United States
- 26 Department of Health and Human Services.
- 27 Sec. 6. Section 71-6042, Reissue Revised Statutes of

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- 1 Nebraska, is amended to read:
- 2 71-6042. The department shall have the authority to
- 3 enforce sections 71-6038 to 71-6042 and sections 7 to 11 of this
- 4 act and such rules and regulations adopted thereto under section
- 5 71-6041 by any of the following means: denial Denial, suspension,
- 6 restriction, or revocation of a nursing home's license, refusal of
- 7 the renewal of a nursing home's license, restriction of a nursing
- 8 home's admissions, or any other enforcement provision granted to
- 9 the department.
- 10 Sec. 7. No person shall act as a paid dining assistant
- in a nursing home unless such person:
- 12 (1) Is at least sixteen years of age;
- 13 (2) Is able to speak and understand the English language
- 14 or a language understood by the nursing home resident being fed by
- 15 such person;
- 16 (3) Has successfully completed at least eight hours of
- 17 training as prescribed by the department for paid dining
- 18 assistants;
- 19 (4) Has no adverse findings on the Nurse Aide Registry or
- 20 the Adult Protective Services Central Registry; and
- 21 (5) Has no adverse findings on the central register
- 22 created in section 28-718 if the nursing home which employs such
- 23 person as a paid dining assistant has more than one resident under
- 24 the age of nineteen years.
- 25 Sec. 8. A paid dining assistant shall:
- 26 (1) Only feed residents who have no complicated feeding
- 27 problems as selected by the nursing home based on the resident's

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| 1 | latest assessment and plan of care and a determination by the |
| 2 | charge nurse that the resident's condition at the time of such |
| 3 | feeding meets that plan of care; |
| 4 | (2) Work under the supervision of a licensed registered |
| 5 | or practical nurse who is in the nursing home and immediately |
| 6 | available; and |
| 7 | (3) Call a supervisor for help in an emergency. |
| 8 | Sec. 9. (1) The department may prescribe a curriculum |
| 9 | for training paid dining assistants and may adopt and promulgate |
| 10 | rules and regulations for such courses of training. Such courses |
| 11 | shall be no less than eight hours in duration. The department may |
| 12 | approve courses of training for paid dining assistants that meet |
| 13 | the requirements of this section. Nursing homes may carry out |
| 14 | approved courses of training and competency evaluation programs at |
| 15 | the nursing home. Training of paid dining assistants shall be |
| 16 | provided by a licensed registered nurse. |
| 17 | (2) Courses of training and competency evaluation |
| 18 | programs for paid dining assistants shall include: |
| 19 | (a) Feeding techniques; |
| 20 | (b) Assistance with feeding and hydration; |
| 21 | (c) Communication and interpersonal skills; |
| 22 | (d) Appropriate responses to resident behavior; |
| 23 | (e) Safety and emergency procedures, including the |
| 24 | abdominal thrust maneuver; |
| 25 | (f) Infection control; |
| 26 | (g) Resident rights; |
| 27 | (h) Recognizing abnormal changes in resident behavior and |

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- 1 reporting such changes to a supervising nurse;
- 2 (i) Special needs; and
- 3 (j) Abuse and neglect, including the responsibility to
- 4 report suspected abuse or neglect pursuant to sections 28-372 and
- 5 28-711.
- 6 (3) This section shall not prohibit any facility from
- 7 exceeding the minimum hourly or training requirements.
- 8 Sec. 10. The department shall maintain a paid dining
- 9 assistant registry and shall include in the registry individuals
- 10 who have successfully completed a paid dining assistant course of
- 11 training and a competency evaluation program.
- 12 Sec. 11. Each nursing home shall maintain (1) a record
- 13 of all paid dining assistants employed by such facility, (2)
- 14 verification of successful completion of a training course for each
- 15 paid dining assistant, and (3) verification that the facility has
- 16 made checks with the Nurse Aide Registry, the Adult Protective
- 17 Services Central Registry, and the central register created in
- 18 section 28-718, if applicable under section 7 of this act, with
- 19 respect to each paid dining assistant.
- 20 Sec. 12. Section 81-3201, Revised Statutes Supplement,
- 21 2003, is amended to read:
- 22 81-3201. (1) The Governor shall appoint a Director of
- 23 Regulation and Licensure for the Department of Health and Human
- 24 Services Regulation and Licensure who shall (a) have administrative
- 25 experience in an executive capacity and some special training in
- 26 public health work and (b) be either a graduate of a recognized
- 27 school of medicine and licensed to practice medicine and surgery in

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- 1 the State of Nebraska or a person with a recognized and
- 2 demonstrated expertise in and knowledge of health and human
- 3 services delivery. The director shall report to the Governor and
- 4 serve full time at the pleasure of the Governor. The director
- 5 shall be subject to confirmation by a majority vote of the members
- 6 of the Legislature as provided in section 81-102.
- 7 (2) If the director appointed under subsection (1) of
- 8 this section is not a licensed physician, the Governor shall
- 9 appoint a chief medical officer to be responsible for oversight of
- 10 health issues for the Nebraska Health and Human Services System.
- 11 The chief medical officer shall report to the Governor and serve
- 12 full time at the pleasure of the Governor and shall be subject to
- 13 confirmation by a majority of the members of the Legislature. The
- 14 chief medical officer shall be a graduate of a recognized school of
- 15 medicine and licensed to practice medicine and surgery in the State
- 16 of Nebraska and have some special training in public health work.
- 17 If a chief medical officer is appointed, he or she shall perform
- 18 the duties under the Uniform Licensing Law specified in section
- 19 71-155.01 and shall be the final decisionmaker in contested cases
- 20 of (a) the health care facilities defined in the Health Care
- 21 Facility Licensure Act arising under the act and sections 71-6042
- 22 and 81-604.03 and (b) occupations referenced in sections 71-6038
- 23 and 71-6039 defined in subdivisions (3) and (5) of section 71-6038.
- 24 Sec. 13. Original sections 71-162 and 71-6038 to
- 25 71-6042, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and section 81-3201,
- 26 Revised Statutes Supplement, 2003, are repealed.
- Sec. 14. The following sections are outright repealed:

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- 1 Sections 71-6014 and 71-6015, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska.
- 2 Sec. 15. Since an emergency exists, this act takes
- 3 effect when passed and approved according to law.".